

CAA News

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CENSUS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ♦ May 2006

Mark Your Calendar

Friday, September 29, is tentatively set for the next reunion. The location is still under consideration, but it will definitely be somewhere near the Bureau.

News From Alumni

[Please let us know about your travels and travails, even if it's only a few lines. People want to know about you.]

Phyllis Bonnette says she is enjoying retirement because there is more time to relax and enjoy nature.

Ty Sturdevant finds Florida weather agrees with him in retirement. Besides playing golf and tennis, he runs track. He reported on his competition at the Senior Olympics in June 2005 and in subsequent track competitions. This year, he has competed in two senior games, winning three medals in consecutive races at the first one, and winning three gold medals in the second meet on February 26. He says, "At 77, I compete in the 100-, 200-, 400-, and 800-meter events, something I would never have thought [I could do] when I retired nearly 25 years ago." Ty retired from the Census Bureau in 1981 after serving as Chief of Business Division, and in 1994 as a retired annuitant after tours in The Philippines and Saudi Arabia. He and his wife Roberta have lived in Sun City Center, FL, since 1994.

Mary Green says she, her 11 siblings, and 80 aunts, uncles, and cousins got together for a cookout at Pine Island on Lake Murray, SC. Mary says her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren found it hard to believe they were related to all those people. (And there were more who were unable to attend!) She also was able to get a photo of her and her eight grandchildren.

Delores Coates says she looks forward to every issue of *CAA News* and *Census CounterParts*. She also

says retirement life gets better every day there at "The Parke" at Ocean Pines, where she is learning pinochle.

Marie Sidleck says she enjoys hearing about other retirees and what's going on at Census. Her e-mail address is mas@chesapeake.net if you'd like get in touch.

Phyllis Bonnette says she is enjoying retirement very much. *[Is there anyone who isn't?]* She and her husband do some traveling, enjoy places of interest in the DC area, spend time with family and friends, and relax and enjoy nature. She wishes everyone "Happy retirement!"

Geri Blackburn has been retired from the Statistical Abstract office for 5 years and says she still likes to keep up with the "happenings" at the Bureau.

Drug Combination Treats Prostate

A study published in the New England Journal of Medicine indicates that a combination of doxazosin and finasteride may be especially effective in treating symptoms of an enlarged prostate. Previously the drugs have been used separately, but one researcher says, "I can't think of many combination therapies where two drugs work by different mechanisms and jointly work so much better. It's a beautiful outcome." It is expected that as many as 7 million men might benefit from the combined drug therapy to ease symptoms such as weak or urgent urination.

On the Lighter Side

- False hope is better than no hope at all.
- For every action, there is an equal and opposite government program.
- Today I will gladly share my experience and advice, for there are no sweeter words than "I told you so."
- Our bombs are smarter than the average high school student—at least they can find Iraq.

DEATHS

[Please send us obituaries of former Census Bureau employees that you see in papers outside the DC area.]

Ralph S. Woodruff, 89, died on January 1. He worked at the Department of Agriculture from 1940 to 1946, then moved to the Census Bureau as a chief mathematical statistician. He was an ADC in Business Division and then Division Chief for SRD in the 1970s. He wrote an important paper on estimating confidence intervals for medians. In retirement he was a business consultant with AID in Rio de Janeiro. Survivors include his wife, Marjorie, three daughters, a sister, and a brother.

Joseph Waksberg, 90, died January 10. Joe was the Chairman of the Board at Westat since 1990, when he took over for Morris Hansen. He had been a senior statistician at Westat since 1973. From 1940 to 1973 he worked at the Census Bureau, retiring as Associate Director for Statistical Methods, Research, and Standards. He was the co-inventor of the efficient method for random digit dialing (RDD), used for 20 years. From 1967-1997 he served as a consultant to CBS and other TV networks on election night. He made major contributions to the Current Population Survey, the American Housing Survey, and many other projects. Survivors include his wife Roz, a daughter, a son, a grandson, and a granddaughter.

David P. Warner died on January 1 after suffering from an extended illness. He worked his entire career at the Census Bureau, from 1967 until his retirement in May 1994. Dave began his career as a Personnel Management Specialist after graduating from the University of Delaware in 1966. He worked in various positions in Personnel until becoming Personnel Officer in 1980. He served as the division chief until his early retirement in May of 1994. Dave was a highly skilled problem solver, but he was also an imaginative, creative planner who helped the agency avoid many problems. During his career, he received Bronze, Silver, and Gold Medals for his distinguished service to the Bureau. Dave had been living in Wilmington, Delaware with his wife, Elaine, and daughter, Joyce, since his retirement.

Lilla Giles McKnight Licht, 71, died of cancer

February 1 at a hospice in Ithaca, NY. She worked as a field representative for the Census Bureau from 1993 to 2003. She also was active in community and civic organizations and was a devoted member of several genealogical organizations. Her husband, Frederic Licht, died in 2002. Survivors include three sons, a sister, and four grandchildren.

Sharon Sue Baucom, 63, died February 4 after a courageous battle against bone cancer. After graduating from Oklahoma State University in 1964, she accepted a position with the Census Bureau as a demographic statistician. She worked in the Decennial Census Division on the 1990 census. Survivors include her husband, Richard, a son, three sisters, and a brother.

Earle Gerson died January 8. Survivors include his wife, Lieta Gerson, two sons, a brother, a sister, and six grandchildren. No further details were available.

Paul C. Glick, 95, died in Tempe, Arizona, January 19 after a brief illness. In Population Division he served as Assistant Division Chief for Social and Demographic Statistics and retired as the division's Senior Demographer. During his tenure at the Census Bureau, which spanned the 1940 through the 1980 Censuses, he received many awards, including the Commerce Department's Gold Medal. He was the driving force behind the development of Census Bureau concepts and strategies governing the processing, presentation, and analyses of data on marriage, family, household, and living arrangements—nearly all of which are still in use.

Robert H. McGuckin III, 63, died of neuroendocrine cancer March 12 at his home in Alexandria, VA. He was director of economic research at the Conference Board, and was formerly chief of the Center for Economic Studies at the Census Bureau. After joining the Bureau in 1986, he oversaw development of the Research Data Center network sponsored by the Bureau and the National Science Foundation. This development was said to have "revolutionized economics." He joined the Conference Board in 1996, where one of his research focuses was the economic restructuring of China and its impact on business performance. Survivors include his wife, Barbara J. Katz, two children from his first marriage, and three grandchildren.

Gregory Kincaid Spencer, 59, died February 20 at Howard County (MD County Hospital of heart

complications from renal failure. He had a rare kidney disorder for 13 years. Spencer was chief of the Population Projections Branch. He came to work at the Census Bureau in 1979, and in 1988 he was awarded the Bronze Medal for devising new approaches to improving age data and Hispanic population projections. Survivors include his wife of 20 years, Maura Conley, two daughters, a brother, and his parents.

Jerry Ankers died March 6 at Georgetown University Hospital. He started his career at the Census Bureau in 1970 and retired in 1995. He worked his entire career in the decennial census area, and he retired as chief of the Processing Support and Analysis Systems Branch in the Decennial Management Division. He lived in Fredericksburg, VA. Survivors include his wife Corrine, two sons, and three grandchildren.

B Is for Bones

A University of California study shows that a low B-12 level predicts rapid hip bone loss in elderly women, and an Italian study shows that the higher the level of folic acid in the body, the greater the mineral density of the lumbar spine. Furthermore, men with high levels of homocysteine (a blood factor that boosts heart disease) are four more times more likely to break a hip; but B vitamins can help reduce homocysteine levels.

Source: USA Weekend, Sept. 10, 2004

Jury Scam Alert!

Most of us take summonses for jury duty seriously, but a new and ominous kind of scam has surfaced. Fall for it and your identity could be stolen, CBS News reports .

In this con, someone calls pretending to be a court official who threateningly says a warrant has been issued for your arrest because you didn't show up for jury duty. If you protest that you never received a summons for jury duty, the scammer asks for your Social Security number and date of birth so he or she can verify the information and cancel the arrest warrant. Sometimes they even ask for credit card numbers. Give out any of this information and bingo! Your identity just got stolen. The scam has been reported so far in 11 states, and the FBI and the federal court system have issued nationwide alerts on their Web sites, warning consumers about this

fraud.

Time to Spare

In an average lifetime, an American spends

- 6 months just sitting at traffic lights
- 8 months opening junk mail
- 12 months l
- 5 years waiting in line

Looking for a Nursing Home?

Some questions to consider:

- Does the nursing home have needed specialized services, such as dementia care, rehabilitation, and ventilators?
- Is there a licensed doctor on staff, or one who makes daily visits? Can he or she be reached at all hours?
- Are the residents clean, well groomed, and dressed appropriately?
- Does the relationship between patients and staff seem to be warm, polite, and respectful?
- Is the home close enough to friends and family so they can visit easily?

To reach the long-term care ombudsman in the DC area, call—

- Washington, DC: 202-434-2140
- Northern Virginia: 703-324-5415
- Prince George's County: 301-265-8483
- Montgomery County: 240-777-3369.

Free Directory Assistance

Telephone companies charge as much as \$1.00 for each 411 (Information) call. You can get this service free—just call 1-800-FREE-411, that is 1-800-373-3411. It's legal!

Old Farm Wisdom for Modern Living

Here are some truisms from the "olden days":

- Every path has a few puddles
- Always drink upstream from the herd
- Don't corner something that's meaner than you
- If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging
- When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty
- Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance

Eat Fish to Help Keep Your Memory

A recent study analyzed dietary and medical data on

3,718 people ages 65 and older and found that frequently eating fish slows memory loss. Over a 6-year period, people who ate fish once a week were found to lose memory ability 10 percent slower than people who ate no fish, and in those who ate fish twice or more a week the loss was 13 percent slower.
Source: Archives of Neurology, Dec. 2005

Risky Cold Cuts

Scientists at the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii and the University of Southern California tracked the eating habits of 190,000 people, ages 45 to 75, for 7 years. They found that those who ate the most processed meats (bacon, ham, and cold cuts) had a 68 percent higher risk of pancreatic cancer than those who ate the least. (“Most” was defined as at least 0.6 ounce of processed meat and at least 0.3 ounce of pork.) Eating poultry, fish, dairy, eggs, and fat did not affect risk.
Source: USA Weekend, 12/30/2005

Good Advice

Before you criticize someone, walk a mile in his shoes. That way, when you criticize him, you’re a mile away and you have his shoes.

“He who laughs last, thinks slowest.”
“There are three kinds of people: those who can count, and those who can’t.”
“Warning: Dates in calendar are closer than they appear.”

CAA News is published three times a year by the Census Alumni Association; Jerry Mann, editor.
Deadlines for submissions:
January issue Dec. 10
May issue Apr. 10
September issue Aug. 10
Your contributions are welcome on any subject of interest to former Census Bureau employees, especially news of yourselves and your families. Please send contributions to gmann928@hotmail.com or to CAA, P.O. Box 1480, Suitland, MD 20752. (E-mail is preferred.) Send address corrections to ezilda@erols.com.
Past issues of the newsletter can be seen at www.census.gov/alumni.

Actual Bumper Stickers

“Out of my mind; back in five minutes.”